

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) A framework for monitoring workflow within an application having multiple levels of functionality, said framework capable of combining a plurality of components from different sources, the framework comprising:
  - (a) A process level for selecting a set of defined process steps ~~to be applied to a data set associated with a set of activities~~ associated with a set of activities to be applied to a data set;
  - (b) A sub-process level including an aggregation of selected activities from said set of activities, said sub-process level for facilitating navigation between ones of said selected activities; and
  - (c) An activity level including at least one activity from said set of activities; wherein said at least one activity having a property in said data set that is modified as a result of the applied processing of said activity level to produce an output data set.
5. (original) A framework according to claim 4 further comprising a user interface for facilitating interaction between a user and said application.
6. (original) A framework according to claim 5, wherein the levels are assignable to distinct regions of said user interface.

7. (original) A framework according to claim 6, wherein said activity level further supports re-use of a previous activity over a current activity, said activity selected from said aggregation selected activities.
8. (original) A framework according to claim 5, wherein said user interface includes a screen for providing a display of images.
9. (original) A framework according to claim 8, wherein a current activity being processed from said set of activities is assigned to a work area of said screen, said work area having a substantial portion of the screen surface area.
10. (original) A framework according to claim 9, wherein said framework monitors ownership of said work area by said current activity.
11. (original) A framework according to claim 6, wherein said user interface facilitates multiple activities that are processable concurrently.
12. (original) A framework according to claim 4, wherein said sub-process level facilitates a dynamic ordering of said selected activities by said user.
13. (original) A framework according to claim 4, wherein said process level automates a control flow between said selected activities in said set of activities based on a rule set or an activity property set.
14. (original) A framework according to claim 4, wherein at least two of said different sources have different formats.
15. (original) A framework according to claim 4, wherein said process level monitors functionality of a current activity based on said output data set obtained from a previous activity.
16. (original) A framework according to claim 4, wherein said process level includes a data selector for selecting said data set.
17. (currently amended) A framework according to claim 16, wherein said process level further includes a process[[,]] selector for selecting said set of defined process steps compatible with said data set.

18. (original) A framework according to claim 4, wherein said process level facilitates selection between active activities by a user.
19. (original) A framework according to claim 4 further comprising a tool level for setting a parameter of said activity level, said parameter for updating an operational behavior of said activity level.
20. (original) A framework according to claim 19, wherein said tool level is assignable to a distinct region of a user interface, said user interface for facilitating interaction between a user and said application.
21. (original) A framework according to claim 20, wherein said framework coordinates installation of a tool in the tool level region of said interface, said tool requested by said activity level.
22. (original) A framework according to claim 19, wherein said tool level includes a tool navigator for facilitating selection of a tool by said user.
23. (original) A framework according to claim 19, wherein multiple tool levels are supported by said framework.
24. (original) A framework according to claim 9, wherein a content of said work area contains shared properties stored in a shared data context.
25. (original) A framework according to claim 24, wherein said shared data context is accessible by cooperating ones of said selected activities for sharing information.
26. (original) A framework according to claim 24, wherein said data set and said set of process steps form a basis of said shared data context.
27. (original) A framework according to claim 24, wherein the content of said shared data context accessible by said user for verifying that required data for said selected activities is present.
28. (original) A framework according to claim 4, wherein said framework restricts access by said user of selected ones of the levels.

29. (original) A framework according to claim 4 further including a module for interfacing said application to a database library.
30. (original) A framework according to claim 29, wherein said database library includes data selected from the group comprising process definitions, sub-process descriptions, and activity information.
31. (original) A framework according to claim 29, wherein said data set is external to said framework with an interface to said data set provided by said module.
32. (original) A framework according to claim 19, wherein said framework restricts access by said user of selected ones of the levels.
33. (original) A method of monitoring a work flow within an application having multiple levels of functionality, said application having a set of activities selectable from a plurality of different sources, the method comprising the steps of:
- (d) selecting a process definition having a set of process steps for processing a data set;
  - (e) selecting said data set associated with said set of activities;
  - (f) initiating said application;
  - (g) navigating between ones of activities selected from said set of activities; and
  - (h) modifying a property contained in said data set for producing an output data set.
34. (original) A method according to claim 33 further comprising the step of facilitating interaction between a user and said application by a user interface.
35. (original) A method according to claim 34 further comprising the step of assigning at least some of said multiple levels of functionality to distinct regions of said user interface.
36. (original) A method according to claim 35, wherein said user interface includes a screen providing a display of images.

37. (original) A method according to claim 36 further comprising the step of assigning a current activity selected from said set of activities to a work area of said screen, said work area having a substantial portion of the screen surface area.
38. (original) A method according to claim 37 further comprising the step of monitoring ownership of said work area by said current activity.
39. (original) A method according to claim 35 further comprising the step of processing at least two process definitions concurrently.
40. (original) A method according to claim 33 further comprising the step of dynamically monitoring of an execution order of said set of activities by a user of said application.
41. (original) A method according to claim 40 further comprising the step of automating a control flow between selected activities in said set of activities based on a rule set or an activity property set.
42. (original) A method according to claim 33 further comprising the step of monitoring an operational functionality of said set of activities based on said output data set obtained from a previous activity.
43. (original) A method according to claim 39 further comprising the step of selecting between active activities for assignment to a work area of said user interface.
44. (original) A method according to claim 43, wherein said application supports a reuse of a previous activity over a current activity, said previous activity selected from said set of activities.
45. (original) A method according to claim 33 further comprising the step of setting a parameter of said set of activities by a tool, said parameter for updating an operational behavior of said set of activities.
46. (original) A method according to claim 45 further comprising the step of assigning said tool to a distinct region of a user interface, said user interface for facilitating interaction between said user and said application.

47. (original) A method according to claim 46 further comprising the step of installing a tool in the tool region of said user interface, said tool requested by said process definition.
48. (original) A method according to claim 34 further comprising the step of sharing properties of a content of a work area of said user interface in a shared data context.
49. (original) A method according to claim 48 further comprising the step of accessing said shared data context by cooperating ones of said set of activities for sharing information purposes.
50. (original) A method according to claim 35 further comprising the step of monitoring a level of information displayed in said distinct regions of said user interface.
51. (original) A method according to claim 35 comprising the step of managing said distinct regions of said user interface by a current activity.